[Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai]

Kottayam and Munnar, I agree with my friend Mr. Fletcher. It is stated in the Administration Report that with the advent of the Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme, a possibility that the Kottayam and Munnar works will be taken over is indicated. We are apprehensive because there is no mention of Nagercoil I was surprised to hear from the Lady Member that in Nagercoil, the private concern is charging a minimum rate of Rs. 2-8-0. He has no business to do so. He is holding a monopoly of the supply of electric energy. I think the department ought to intervene and reduce the minimum charges. I should even say that the department should not lose time to take over the concern and run it by itself. It is also shown that the electric supply in Nagercoil is not run on a profit.

President : The House will now adjourn and meet again at 2 o'clock.

The House adjourned for lunch at 1 P. M. and re assembled at 2 P. M. with the President in the Chair.

NEW MEMBER.

Mr. E. G. Salter took the oath and signed the Rolls.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : Sir, I was speaking about the rates of the Nagercoil Electrical Supply Corporation. I think the department will have sufficient powers to exercise control over the rates and see that it is reduced. It cannot be said that the average man in Nagercoil consumes more energy than the average man in Trivandrum. There can be no justification for these high rates.

It has been pointed out by the honourable member Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar that the system of charging Government with very high rates is not good as it enables the department only to show enhanced profits. When the department is run on commercial lines, I cannot understand how it can show partiality as between the consumers of electricity. I do not know for whose benefit Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar was speaking. Was it for the benefit of the private cousumer? Was it for the benefit of the Government or for the benefit of the department? I do not know for whom he was speaking? Unless the rates are equal with regard to Government and private consumers and unless the income is derived accordingly there will not be the likelihood of the lessening of the rates for the private consumer. Do you want to say that the figure is artificially kept up by the department. So far as the department is concerned the consumption of energy by Government should be considered as on equal terms with the private consumer and then only will it be

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possible to make a reduction for the private consumer. Except for the fact to show that the department does not earn profit or to wilfully minimise the profits, there can be no reason why this argument should be advanced.

President: Are there special rates for bulk consumption, Mr. Menon?

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: Yes, Sir, that is applicable to all.

President: Do you give that facility to Government also?

Mr K. P. Padmanabha Menon: Yes.

President: Government uses a large amount of electricity and therefore gets a certain concession.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: As a commercial department it cannot reasonably show any other invidious distinction between the rates.

In Quilon, I know that the consumption of electricity by the Government departments is very little when compared with the consumption of private and industrial concerns That fact has not been pointed out. In regard to this matter it cannot be denied that the department is one of the most efficientily worked departments in the State. It is a commercial department and because it is one of the few commercial departments bringing credit and profit to the Government, I thought it necessary to dispell the misconception that may be created against the department though unintentionally.

The Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Project was engaging the attention of the whole of Travancore and very great hopes are entertained with regard to the successful termination and working of that Project. I remember the time when the Electrical Engineer gave us the estimate of Rs. 75 lakhs or so at one time for the completion of the project.

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: May I correct the member?

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: I am subject to correction. Any how an infinitely small figure than the actual cost now incurred was then presented to us. There might have been some improvments or extensions to the project.

President: In public works, as in marriages, original estimates are hardly adhered to.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: But then that estimate should have atleast some reference to the actualities. I can understand that a work is not ordinarily finished for the orginal estimates But all the same, we are glad that the department assures that after all by the beginning of next year the Pallivasal Hydro Electric

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[Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

Project will be completed and the whole country will be supplied with electric energy.

With regard to the supply of electrical energy to various cottage industries, I wish to point out to the department early enough that it should not allow the exploitation of the individual consumers by private contractors who bid for the supply of energy to them. The department should have sufficient control over the contractors so that they may not exploit the poor people who use the energy. Otherwise in the long run it will not be good for the successful working of the department. With these few words I have very great pleasure in supporting the demand.

Mr. E. K. Kurippe : സർ, പള്ളിവാസൽ പ്രൊജക്ട് എല ക്ട്രിക്ക് സ്കീമിനെപ്പറ്റി വന്ന ഡിസംബർ മാസത്തിൽ പറൻറ കട്ട് ചെയ്ത വരിയുന്നതിനാൽ ഈ പദ്ധതിയെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു സാമാന്യജന ങ്ങൾക്കുണ്ടായിരുന്ന തെറ്റിദ്ധാരണ മാറിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ പവ ർഹൌസ് ഇപ്പോഴുള്ള സ്ഥാനം തന്നെ കണ്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിൻറെ പൊ ട്ടൻഷ്യൽ മുഴുവനും പായയിലാണ് സ്ഥിതിചെയ്യുന്നത്.

President : We have got only about 20 to 25 minutes more for the whole demand and 2 or 3 Honourable members desire to participate in the discussion. So I will give the Hon'ble members five minutes each.

Mr. E. K. Kuripe നാട്ടിൽ സാധാരണ കൃഷിപ്രധാനം നിമി ത്തം യാതൊരു വേലയുമില്ലാതിരുന്ന കാലത്ത് ഗവർമെൻറ ഈ പദ്ധതി സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള വേല പല്ലാവരുടെയുള്ള വിചാരത്തിലും വലിച്ചു, ഇട യ്ക്കൊണ്ടുപോയതിനാൽ ക്രമക്കേട് കാലക്ഷേപത്തിന് മാത്രമുണ്ടാ ക്കികൊടുത്തുവെന്ന് വിസ്തരിക്കുന്നതല്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ ഈ പദ്ധതിയുടെ വിജയത്തെ യാഥാർത്ഥമായി സാധിക്കുന്നതാണ്. ഈ പദ്ധതിയിൽ നിന്നു കിട്ടുന്ന കറൻറുകൊണ്ട് ഇലക്ട്രിക്ക് ലൈനിന് സമീപമുള്ള ലൈനുകളില്ലാത്ത സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ജലസേചനം ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുന്നതിന് കൂടി വേണ്ട ഏർപ്പാട് ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുന്നപക്ഷം അനേകം ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലം കൃഷിചെയ്യുന്നതിന് ഉപയോഗപ്രദമായിത്തീരുന്നതാണ്.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : If you would allow me Sir, I would like to talk on electricty.

President : But the other Honourable Member has not finished.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : I am sorry I thought he had finished.

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Mr. E. K. Kurippe : ഇലക്ട്രിക് ലൈനിന്റെ രണ്ടുവശത്തു നിന്നും അനവധി വൃക്ഷങ്ങളേയും കെട്ടിടങ്ങളേയും വെട്ടിമാറ്റുകയും പൊളിച്ചുമാറ്റുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. അവയ്ക്ക് പ്രതിഫലം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിന് നിയമിച്ച ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻ നീതിമാനാണെങ്കിലും ന്യായമായ സംഖ്യ ഇതിലേയ്ക്ക് കൊടുക്കാതിരിക്കുകയാണ് ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളത്. തത്സംബന്ധമായി അവിടത്തെ ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് വളരെ സങ്കടമുണ്ട്. ഈ കാര്യത്തിലേക്ക് വേണ്ടി അനേകായിരം രൂപാ ഗവൺമെന്റിനിന്നും ചിലവാക്കിയ സ്ഥിതിക്ക് സാധുക്കളായ ഈ ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് ശരിയായ പൊന്നുംവില കൊടുക്കാതെ കബളിപ്പിച്ചുവന്നതായി വളരെ സങ്കടമാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഈ സംഗതിയിൽ ഗവൺമെന്റ് പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിച്ച് അവർക്ക് ന്യായമായ പൊന്നുംവില കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു വേണ്ട നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ പക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

Mr. Kochikat P. Balakrishnan Tampi: Sir, honourable members who are permanently residing in towns might blame the Electrical Engineer and eventually plead for reduction of rates. But the vast majority of the members of this House who represent the interests outside the City of Trivandrum are interested in keeping the rates as high as is commercially feasible. Government have made huge investments in the scheme and fortunately it has turned out to be a success. In the very nature of Governmental enterprise some ventures have not proved to be so successful as it was anticipated. That is another reason why we must take the utmost gain from the electrical department. Therefore there is no point in yielding to the clamour—I do not want to use the wordclamour but I would say eloquent representation—of those honourable members for the reduction of rates.

President: I requested the honourable members to send up their names so that I can make a kind of list, and call upon members in a particular order. Otherwise there will be much difficulty. I trust honourable members will realise that.

Mr Thomas Chandy Mukkadan : ഈ ഡിമാൻറിനെ പിൻതാങ്ങിക്കൊണ്ട് കുട്ടനാട്ടിലെ കർഷകരുടെ കാര്യം ഗവൺമെന്റിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരണമെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നത്. അവിടത്തെ കൃഷിക്കാർ അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന സങ്കടങ്ങളിൽ ഏറ്റവും പ്രധാനമായിട്ടുള്ളത് വെള്ളം വറ്റിക്കുന്ന വിഷയത്തിലാണെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി സഭയിട്ടുള്ളത് വെള്ളം വറ്റിക്കുന്ന വിഷയത്തിലാണെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഗവൺമെന്റിനും നല്ലവണ്ണം അറിവുള്ളതാണ്. പമ്പിങ്ങിനു വേണ്ട ഇലക്ട്രിസിറ്റി കുട്ടനാട്ടിലെ കൃഷിക്കാർക്ക് കിട്ടുമെന്ന് താൻ

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[Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan.

പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയാണ്. മി. അനന്തശിവയ്യർ പറഞ്ഞതു പോലെ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ അധികം ഉള്ളതു കൊണ്ട് ഞങ്ങൾക്ക് ഇലക്ട്രിസിറ്റി തരുന്നതിനുള്ള മാർഗ്ഗമെന്തെല്ലാമാണെന്ന് ആലോചിക്കുന്നതിന് ചില ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ ഇപ്പോൾ തന്നെ നിയമിച്ച് അതിലേക്കു വേണ്ട പ്രാരംഭജോലികൾ നടത്തണമെന്നുള്ള പ്രധാനസംഗതി ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുകയാണ്.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon: Sir, in supporting the demand I would like to express my disagreement with the honourable member, Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai, in his view that we should consider the scheme as a commercial undertaking looking to profit side. On the other hand I want to express the opinion that it should be viewed only as a utility department meant to raise the standard of the people concerned. In that view the reduction of rates is highly necessary to popularise the scheme and also to help the development of cottage industries in the State. It is unnecessary to keep up the high rates and the department should be worked with a view to make it as much useful to the people as is possible.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan: When I was listening to speeches requesting for the reduction in the rate I was rather laughing in my sleeves, for by the time power will be made available from the Hydro Electric Project to my village the rate will be brought down. So without wasting my energy on this problem I was able to enjoy, while the honourable members were speaking. Referring to the amenities of communication and expansion of transport department I wish to draw the attention of the honourable members of this House to the fact that electric power can be used for driving trolly buses which will perhaps take the place of buses run by diesel and petrol engines. Diesel engine buses or the petrol engine buses are costly compared with electrically driven buses. I do not know the details of the expenditure or the capacity of such buses.

President: I think that the honourable member could better make these remarks more appropriately when the demand for Transport comes.

Mr. M. Govindan: I also support the demand, Sir. But in doing so I beg to differ from my honourable friend who said that the rate for the consumers should be reduced to make the enterprise successful. This is as good as killing the goose that lays the golden egg.

President: Mr, Menon,

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Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: Sir, I shall deal first with the Trivandrum Electric supply about which certain observations have been made on the floor of this House. First, I shall deal with the rates and secondly, with regard to the provision of Reserve Fund.

President: The honourable Member will kindly raise his voice.

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: The objection raised with regard to the provision of a Reserve Fund can be met very easily. In any commercial undertaking, it is always prudent to provide for a sufficient reserve fund as a precaution against all unforeseen contingencies. It is true, as Mr. Fletcher said, that amble provision is made from year to year for depreciation. But, it sometimes happens that plants which are in service, may before they complete their period of useful life, breakdown owing to causes over which we have no control. To provide for such contingencies, it is always prudent to have a Reserve Fund to fall back upon. Besides, the Trivandrum Electric Supply is run on fuel imported from outside the State. Due to various conditions of the outside market, the prices may go up. When prices go up, it will be necessary to increase the rates correspondingly, unless we can fall back upon the Reserve Fund equalising our Balance Sheet.

Mr. James Fletcher: Is there any reserve store for the imported materials ?

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: We keep enough stock to operate for 2 or 3 months.

President: The Government have also in contemplation to store up materials more, due to the unsettled condition in Europe.

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: With regard to the reduction of rates, it has always been the intention of Government to adopt a progressive policy, viz., a systematic reduction. When the Scheme was started 10 years ago, the rates were fixed on the basis of an anticipated income at that time and also based on the price of fuel oil prevailing then. Due to the increase in the number of consumers and due to the gradual development of the load, the rates have come down systematically and in some cases phenomenally. For instance, in the case of a domestic consumer, the rates have come down to 16 per cent. The rates for industrial power have also been systematically reduced and even this year a further substantial reduction has been made. In the case of the street lights also, a substantial reduction has recently been made with the result that it is possible for the Trivandrum Municipality to maintain the electric lights at practically the same cost as kerosine lights. This policy for reduction will be kept in view in future

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[Mr. K. P Padmanabha Menon.]

also. If there is a substantial increase in the number of consumers year by year, the benefit of that increase will go to the consumers themselves, as they can be supplied energy at a lower rate. I am hoping that the rates for lighting and fans could be reduced by another 10 per cent. in the near future.

With regard to the question of charging lower rates for energy consumed in Government buildings, I am afraid under the provisions of the Electricity Act, it is not legal to do so because under the provisions of the Act all consumers have to be treated alike.

President: You may point out what may happen in the case of factories run by Government.

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: Yes, Sir. The fact that a certain factory is or is not run by Government should not make any difference in this respect. The Anchal Department is an instance in kind. Even granting that Government are contributing a lakh of rupees towards the revenue of the Trivandaum Electric Supply, it has to be remembered that Government like other consumers get the benefit of concessions on account of the large consumption. For instance, the Water Works Engineer is using electric power for his pumping equipment. But, at the time he designed the pumping station, he went very carefully into the question of generating separate power and found that it would be more costly to do so. I need not expand that matter further. We have got other places also where power is generated and supplied. Quilon is a typical example. The amount of energy sold (according to the latest figures in 1114) represents an income of Rs. 1,42,000 per annum, of which the Government consumption is only to the extent of about Rs. 15,000.

Sir, much emphasis was laid on the question of the large staff in the Trivandrum Electric Supply. I am afraid that I do not at all agree with that observation. Page 2 of the Administration Report of the Department for 1113 will show that the expenditure for Establishment for the whole Department in 1113 was only 6·14 per cent. as against 6·5 per cent. in 1112. I wish the Honourable Members to understand that this percentage is very low when compared with similar departments operating elsewhere. It is true that there is an Executive Engineer for Trivandrum, but he is functioning not for the Trivandrum Supply alone. He is in charge of the Quilon Supply and the new Broadcasting Scheme. The total amount of work under his control is to the value of about Rs. 9 lakhs per annum. He is, besides, responsible for the collection of about Rs. 4 lakhs of revenue. It must be admitted that an officer of an Executive Engineer's status is certainly necessary to look after

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the work involving the expenditure of such a large amount. Mention also was made that the Executive Engineer at Kothamangalam has very little work. This is not correct. This Officer is in charge of works covering a large jurisdiction and at present he is supplying power to some villages and municipalities besides being responsible for the construction of several sub-stations which are being completed one by one. The Pallam Sub-station is now being energised. Mavelikara will come next. The Pallam Sub-division is in charge of the distribution of current in Alleppey, Mavelikara and Pallam and Changanacherry also from the next month ; the municipal towns of Alwaye and Parur are also supplied with power. Arrangements are being made to distribute power to Perumbavur and the neighbouring villages. Compared with any of the similar departments in the State, I don't think that this department is overstaffed. All the Section Officers, Sub-division Officers and Engineers have plenty of work to do. Each sub-division is in charge of works involving a cost of about Rs. 4 to 5 lakhs every year. Next year, it may be more, as more lines have to be constructed to feed new areas. The Pallam Sub-division Officer will shortly be engaged in the construction of distribution lines in the Kuttanad Punja area. 14 miles have already been surveyed. We are making arrangements to pump one block in the reclamation during the next pumping season, even before power from Pallivasal will be available. From calculations made already and which were confirmed from experience elsewhere, I find that the cost of pumping the D Block may work out to Rs. 4,000 and odd. I understand that the figures were Rs. 6,500 in 1110, Rs. 6,000 in 1112 and Rs. 5,500 in 1113.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar: May I inform the Member that 600 acres are not cutlivated in Block D?

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: 630 acres Sir. Sir, mention was made here that the expenditure on the Pallivasal Scheme has considerably exceeded the original estimate of Rs. 37½ lakhs. As a matter of fact, the original estimate was Rs. 70 lakhs. But it comprised of transmission and distribution only up to Kottayam. Since then, the capacity of the Generating Station has been increased 50 per cent. the transmission lines extended by 50 miles and the distribution system by 75 miles. If all these factors are taken into account, the present estimate of Rs. 1 crore and 25 lakhs is not after all, such a large excess.

With regard to the question of Government taking control of the two private electric supply agencies operating in Travancore, I may say that they are given licenses under the provision of the Electricity Act, Section 7.

At the time when application for these licenses were applied for by these parties concerned Government made references to the

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respective Municipalities as to whether the Municipalities will themselves be in a position to undertake the supply and if not whether the licenses may be granted. From their replies it was understood that the Municipalities, (at least in one instance *viz.*, the Kottayam Municipality), were not in a position to undertake and finance the scheme. The Kottayam Municipality recommended that the license may be given to the present licensee. Not only that, but they agreed to advance a substantial sum of about Rs. 28,000 to the present licensee for carrying out the work.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: May I know why with reference to the Quilon Municipality though the Municipality undertook to take up the work, Government said that they themselves will undertake the work ?

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: It was on my recommendation that such a policy was adopted by Government. I pointed out to Government that the implications of the electric supply at Quilon were entirely different from those at Kottayam. Quilon is an industrial town and the supply of electricity to such an area involving large investments should be supplied to very efficient scrutiny. The results of the operation of the Quilon Electric Supply Scheme for the last four years confirm that the decision arrived at by Government was perfectly justified.

Mr. T. Krishna Pillai: May I know the view of the Electrical Engineer regarding the supply of electricity for telephone free of charge as is done in Norway and Sweden for commercial possibilities and advantages ?

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: I will deal with that after I finish with this subject.

President: You have no time ; I am afraid you have got three minutes more.

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: The question of the Municipality taking over the Kottayam Electric Supply, is now engaging the attention of Government.

With regard to the Nagercoil Electric Supply, it has been pointed out that the rate charged is very high. From the results of the audit reports prepared by the Accountant-General, I find that the concern has not been making any profit ever since it started its operation. The rates that they are charging now are the same as those in force when the Trivandrum electricity commenced operation ten years ago. The question of the reduction of rates in Nagercoil will have to be considered after the scheme has made some progress.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: What about the minimum rate ?

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Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: The minimum in Nagercoil is also just the same as it was here when the Trivandrum supply started. But it is understood from my recent discussions with the Nagercoil Electric Supply management that they are proposing to send up recommendations to Government to bring down the rate similar to that now in force in Trivandrum.

A complaint was raised by Mr. Kuriyppe against the special Land Acquisition Officer who is in charge of the work in connection with the payment of compensation for the trees cut and buildings acquired. I am very glad to inform the honourable member that there is absolutely no basis for such a complaint against that officer. We had to deal with 3,000 odd cases of compensation aggregating to over Rs. 1,35,000 in 1112 and 1113. Among these only two or three cases have gone to the court so far and these are still pending in the court. This will show that the officer concerned had done his work in a most satisfactory and equitable manner.

Regarding telephone, I am not aware of any system of free services anywhere. In any case, free service is not possible here. We have to incur a capital expenditure of about Rs. 8 to 9 lakhs and we should get an adequate return on this investment. There is, therefore, no reason why we should give it free when there is no more free service anywhere else in India. Our line will have to be connected up with the Government of India Telephone System very shortly and the rates that would be applicable for the telephone system here will be more or less comparable with the rates now existing which are much cheaper than the rates in British India.

President: Before putting this Demand to vote the one question that has been incidentally raised, and is a question of policy has to be clarified in order to keep in view the possible developments. I think the honourable members of this House will be glad to learn that the advantages of cheap power in a country like this, where, fortunately at this moment, labour is cheap and certain valuable raw materials are obtainable, have been recognised to such an extent that we are receiving demands for practically doubling the power available from Pallivasal. Certain big industrial concerns are making offers.

The ideal scheme in regard to electricity would be that Government should produce electricity in bulk and deliver it at certain specified localities to indigenous and enterprising firms or syndicates for local supply. Take, for instance, the question of pumping at Kuttanad and other places. If a really efficient joint stock or co-operative organisation were in existence there and if that could act as our licensee to take from our hands the power, they could by their propaganda from house to house do much in the matter of popularising cheap power and benefiting the country side.

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[President]

That was the idea underlying the grant of licenses in various localities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, to private companies. When the Pykara Electric Scheme was started, it was with definite advertance to that idea that the originators of the scheme started on the basis of producing electricity in bulk with the idea of supplying it to the mofussal centres by leaving it open to those concerned in the localities to utilise it and profit by sub-licenses. So far as Travancore is concerned, the present trend of opinion would appear to be, from all that I have heard, that Government should act not only as bulk producer, but as distributor both in bulk and in retail and also as propagandists as tax collectors. Now, for the time being, fortunately we have not many centres or foci of industrial activity. But it is surely up to this honourable House and the other House and to the people at large to see to it that Government serve its main purpose, *viz.*, as bulk producer and supplier for bulk and large consumption purposes, leaving what may be called the small user to combine with his fellow user and form a co-operative or joint-stock enterprise for the proper utilisation of cheap power in order to stimulate cottage industries. This is a matter of future policy. But if it is accepted that the Government will do bulk production and attend to distribution to individual consumers also, there will be an electricity bureaucracy brought into being. There will then be the Transport bureaucracy and the electrical bureaucracy and I do not know how many other bureaucracies there will be in the State.

The question that the Government be granted a sum of Rs. 26,80,256 under Demand XII—Electricity and Telephone was put to vote and carried.

The motion was passed, and the grant made.

DEMAND NO. XIII—POLICE.

President : Mr. Inspector-General of Police.

Khan Bahadur G. Sayid Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy : Sir, I beg to move for a grant of Rs. 8,76,710 under Demand XIII—Police Department.

President : I find now that on account of the popularity of the department fourteen honourable members have given their names to me for speaking on this demand, the discussion on which will be taken up now. Obviously, one of two courses is alone possible : either one or two or three members from each group will have to speak at length or honourable members will confine to two or three minutes each. I leave it entirely to the House to decide according to their own desires and inclinations.

(The House, by a show of hands signified its assent to all the fourteen members speaking on the demand, the time for each being limited to three minutes.)

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